



Safety Alert

Refueling Safety OIF SA-018



We have had another refueling accident in MND-B when a Soldier used a lighter to see how full the fuel tank was. The Soldier is in very serious condition and is being transported to the rear for treatments. Over 60% of his body is burned with 3rd degree burns on 14%.

As professionals we have to ask ourselves how something like this could occur and why we allowed it to happen. Fueling accidents like this happen for the following reasons.

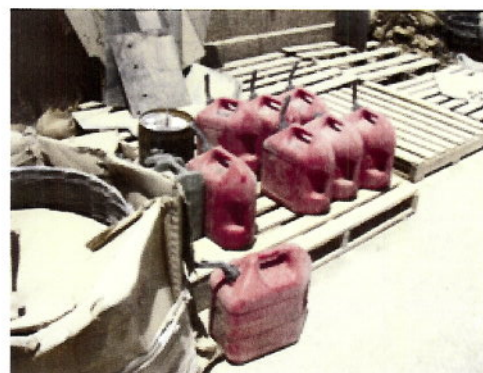
Leadership failure to:

1. Ensure that training is conducted
2. Ensure that standards are followed
3. Ensure that equipment is functioning properly
4. Ensure that protective equipment is provided and used
5. Stop unsafe acts



Soldier failure to:

1. Follow and adhere to standards
2. Use equipment safety devices
3. Use protective equipment
4. Mitigate immediate hazards
5. Stop unsafe acts



Mitigation Measures:

1. No smoking or open flames within 50 feet
2. Maintain fire fighting capability near by
3. Maintain pumps, valves, dead man switches
4. Maintain two-man refuel teams
5. Ground tankers and bond vehicles
6. Additional controls are posted on the MND-B Safety Portal i.e. Risk Management worksheets and checklists.

This accident should never have happened and wouldn't have if personnel would have taken appropriate actions to stop unsafe acts.

